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**APPLICANTS**  
 Toshiyuki Miyauchi, Tokyo, JAPAN; ✓  
 Yasuhiro Iida, Tokyo, JAPAN; ✓  
 Yuji Shinohara, Tokyo, JAPAN; ✓

**\*\* CONTINUING DATA \*\*\*\*\***  
 This application is a 371 of PCT/JP04/09877 07/05/2004 ✓

**\*\* FOREIGN APPLICATIONS \*\*\*\*\***  
 JAPAN 2003-303963 08/28/2003 ✓  
 JAPAN 2003-355532 10/15/2003 ✓

**\*\* IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED \*\***

Foreign Priority claimed 35 USC 119(a-d) conditions met Verified and Acknowledged	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No /LAM T MAI/ Examiner's Signature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met after Allowance Im Initials	<b>STATE OR COUNTRY</b> JAPAN	<b>SHEETS DRAWINGS</b> 30	<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b> 11	<b>INDEPENDENT CLAIMS</b> 4
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**ADDRESS**  
 SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP  
 P.O. BOX 061080  
 WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER  
 CHICAGO, IL 60606-1080  
 UNITED STATES

**TITLE**  
 Decoding device and method, program recording medium, and program

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